

Message Text

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12

ACTION EUR-25

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L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-15

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FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2265

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

USMISSION NATO

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C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 11469

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UR, UK

SUBJ: SOVIET AMBASSADOR'S MEETING WITH PRIME MINISTER HEATH

1. AT THE WEEKLY QUADRIpartite MEETING SEPTEMBER 20, BRITISH AMBASSADOR KILLICK REPORTED ON A CALL SOVIET AMBASSADOR LUNKOV HAD RECENTLY MADE ON PRIME MINISTER HEATH. AT THAT MEETING LUNKOV SAID THAT GROMYKO UNFORTUNATELY COULD NOT ACCEPT THE BRITISH INVITATION TO VISIT LONDON FOLLOWING HIS CURRENT VISIT TO THE UNGA. LUNKOV EXPLAINED THAT GROMYKO HAD NEW COMMITMENTS AS A MEMBER OF THE POLITBURO AND HAD TO GET BACK TO MOSCOW IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE VISIT TO NEW YORK.

2. AMBASSADOR KILLICK ALSO REPORTED THAT FOREIGN MINISTER DOUGLAS-HOME SPOKE BLUNTLY TO LUNKOV ON THE TREATMENT OF DISSIDENTS IN THE SOVIET UNION. THE FOREIGN MINISTER TOLD LUNKOV THAT THIS WAS, OF COURSE, AN INTERNAL AFFAIR BUT THAT THE TREATMENT OF DISSIDENTS HAD INTERNATIONAL REPERCUSSIONS WHICH ONE COULD NOT AFFORD TO IGNORE. LUNKOV WAS REPORTEDLY RATHER DEFENSIVE IN RESPONDING.

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3. IT IS AMBASSADOR KILLICK'S JUDGMENT THAT THE SOVIETS

ARE STILL AIMING FOR A SUMMIT-LEVEL MEETING WITH THE
BRITISH IN THE NEAR FUTURE. THE BRITISH, HOWEVER, ARE
IN NO GREAT HURRY AT THIS TIME, FEELING THAT IT MIGHT
BE DIFFICULT TO HOLD SUCH A SUMMIT AND TO AGREE ON A
DOCUMENT CONTAINING PRINCIPLES GOVERNING BILATERAL
RELATIONS AT A TIME WHEN SUCH PRINCIPLES ARE UNDER
DISCUSSION WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF CSCE.

DUBS

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